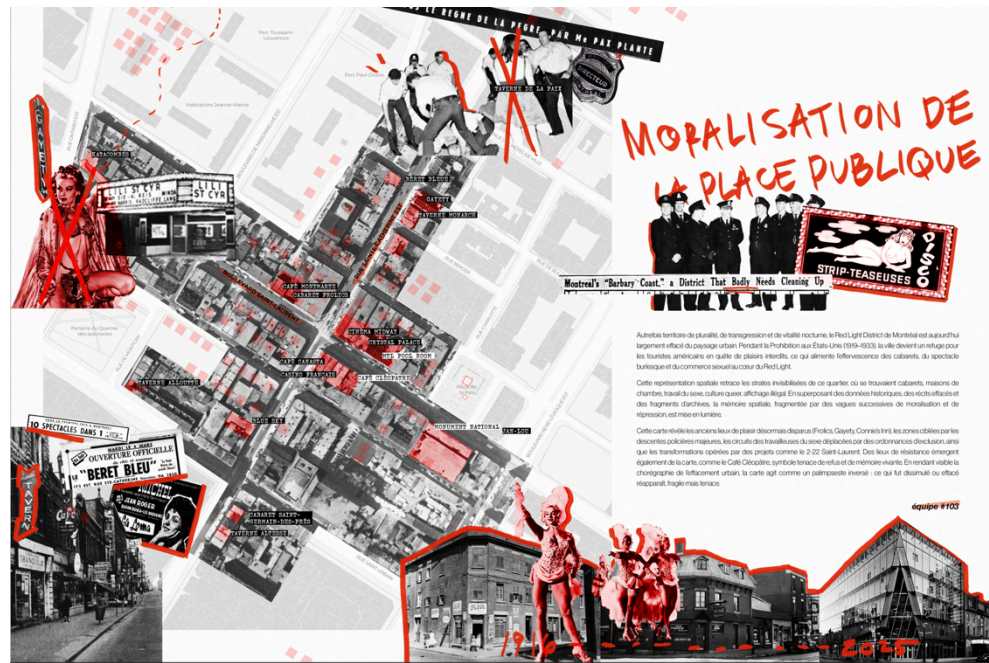*For immediate release*

Cartography of the Invisible
Winners of the 2025 CCA Interuniversity Charrette announced

Winning proposal of the 2025 Interuniversity Charrette: "Moralisation de la place publique",
by Vincent Levesque and Sara Deslauriers (Université de Montréal)

Montréal, 20 March 2025 – The winners of the 2025 Interuniversity Charrette were announced tonight during the awards ceremony, held at the CCA. Initiated in 1995 by the CCA, the annual competition is open to students and recent graduates in architecture, landscape architecture, urbanism, environmental design, urban design, industrial design, and graphic design.

This year's edition, titled **Cartography of the Invisible**, was organized by the **CCA** in partnership with the **Université du Québec à Montréal**, the **Université de Montréal**, and **McGill University,** and challenged participants to uncover the hidden narratives within urban spaces through the lens of cartography and design. In a time when social inequalities, homelessness, and the erasure of marginalized histories continue to shape cities, this year's competition invited participants to make the unseen visible.

Using mapping as a design tool, interdisciplinary teams selected a public space—such as a square, park, street, or station—and revealed its underrepresented stories. By tracing networks, flows, and overlooked activities, they exposed the layered complexities embedded in the urban environment. Digital tools, GPS data, and innovative cartographic techniques played a crucial role in this process.

Cartography of the Invisible invited and encouraged all students currently registered in Canadian universities as well as to recent graduates, to rethink public space through spatial storytelling. Their proposals offered new ways to understand, interpret, and design the city, engaging with history, social justice, and the built environment.

Members of the jury for this edition included architect, landscape architect and urban planner **Peter Soland**; curator and independent researcher **Ji-Yoon Han**; and **Lola Sheppard**, Professor at the University of Waterloo School of Architecture and a founding partner of Lateral Office.

The jury carefully evaluated **68** submitted **proposals.** A total of **94 teams** consisting of **258 students** from **17 different universities** initially registered for this edition: Carleton University (63); Université de Montréal (60); Université du Québec à Montréal (53); Université Laval (27); McGill University (26); University of Toronto (9); University of British Columbia (4); University of Manitoba (3); University of Calgary (3); Ontario College of Art and Design (2); Toronto Metropolitan University (2); Art Center College of Art and Design (1); British Columbia Institute of Technology (1); Concordia University (1); Harvard University (1); University of Waterloo (1); University of Michigan (1).
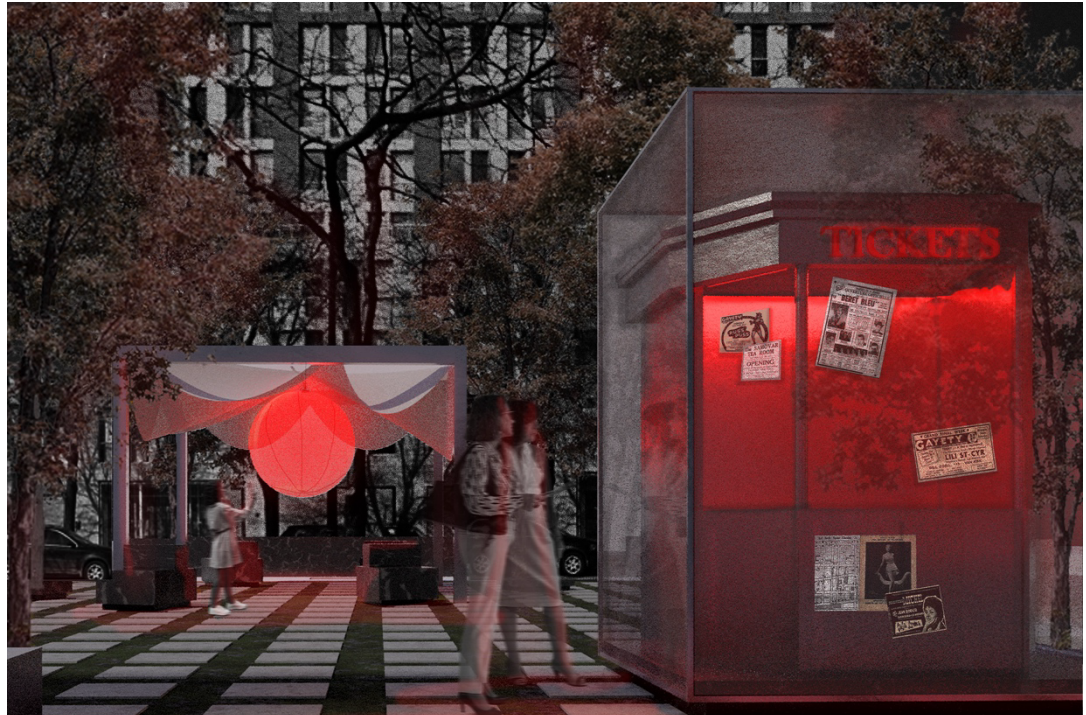
The winners will receive a selection of recent CCA publications as well as Friends of the CCA memberships with numerous benefits.

The winners of the 2025 CCA Interuniversity Charrette

First place:
Moralisation de la place publique
Vincent Levesque and Sara Deslauriers (Université de Montréal)

 Jury's comment:
"*Moralisation de l'espace public* impressed the jury with the clarity and evocative power of its proposal on the history of Montreal's Red Light District and the successive layers of erasure the neighborhood has undergone. Both subtle and playful, the sculptural installation engages with the shifting temporalities of urban experience, transforming a mirrored glass cube by day into a red-lit display window by night—revealing the dynamics of visibility and invisibility, past and present, in the public space".

Second Place:
Watching the watchers
Badr Echchihab (McGill University) and Théo Hovsepian (McGill University)

Jury's comment:
"The project deals elegantly with the question of urban surveillance. Using the McGill campus as a site, the map documents the areas of digital visibility and invisibility, in relation to a network of surveillance cameras. The proposal of a gold-coloured protective cloth canopy, which weaves through the campus, makes legible where bodies can travel in order to avoid cones of surveillance. The jury appreciated the play of a very visible canopy which offers "invisibility"."

Third place:
Almanac of Moving Appearances
Jia Chen Mi (University of Toronto), Mam Lam Cheng (University of Michigan), and Patricia Ku (Harvard Graduate School of Design)
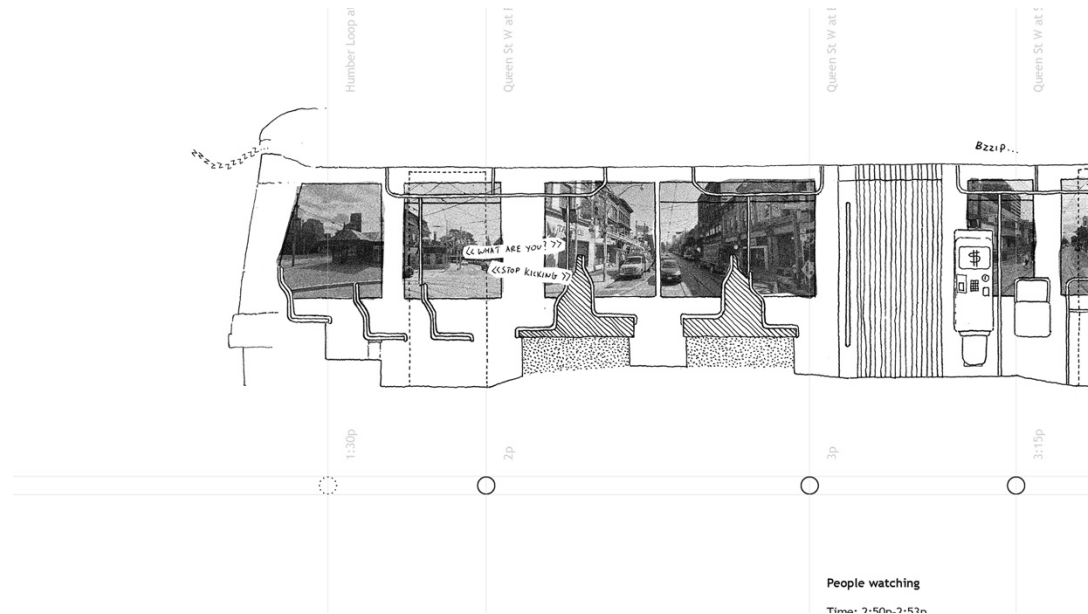
Jury's comment:
"This project reimagines the interior of the tramway as a public space—a civic space in motion, tracing a path through the city of Toronto. Its mapping seeks to reveal the intangible layers of the transit experience: conversations, digital screens, and scents. Through the tramway windows, citizens are invited to recognize programmed actions within the urban space, creating a scenography of everyday life. The plan and section of the tramway present it as an architectural element of the city. The jury was captivated by this perspective on urban life."

Two Special Mentions:

A fractured cartography
Jana Gineina, Myvel Ibrahim, Sarah King, Marcus Yuen, and Michael Conway (Carleton University)

Jury's comment:
"The project documents the registration of pavement cracks in Ottawa as evidence of the socio-economic divide between wealthy areas of government institutions and areas of neglect and marginalization.

An innovative map of urban pixels reveals this registration of pavement cracks, while an evocative model documents two seminal urban thoroughfares in the Capital, as sites, in which to legible these divides."

Cartographie de l'inaccessible
Lauriane Rioux (Université de Montréal), Vincent Morrier (Université Laval)

Jury's comment:
"This project explores the mental mapping of urban space by citizens with physical and visual impairments. Addressing a timely issue, it proposes minimalist interventions in Montreal's Baldwin Park to improve navigation for individuals with visual impairments. Speculative before-and-after illustrations translate the research into making the invisible experiences of this population more tangible."

Please find all further information about the CCA Interuniversity Charrette [here](#)

Media Contacts
To request an interview or for further information, please contact Julia Albani at jalbani@cca.qc.ca.

About the CCA

The Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA) is an international research institution and museum premised on the belief that architecture is a public concern. We produce exhibitions and publications, develop and share our collection as a resource, advance research, offer public programs, and host a range of other activities driven by a curiosity about how architecture shapes— and might reshape—contemporary life. We invite collaborators and the wider public to engage with our activities, giving new relevance to architectural thinking in light of current disciplinary and cultural issues.

Founded as a new type of cultural institution by Phyllis Lambert in 1979, the CCA is currently directed by Giovanna Borasi and steered by the CCA Board of Trustees.

To learn more about the CCA, please read about our history, refer to a timeline of our past activities, or explore the ways that we are working toward fostering affirmative relationships with Indigenous and other peoples across Tiohtià:ke/Mooniyang/Montréal through the process of creating a **living land acknowledgement.**

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